

REMARKS

Claims 32-40 are pending in this application, of which Claims 32 and 36-39 are in independent form. Claims 32-34 and 36-39 have been amended to define more clearly what Applicant regards as the invention.

As an initial matter, Applicant notes that although the Office Action Summary lists Claims 1-31 as having been withdrawn, these claims were previously canceled.

Further, Applicant notes that an Information Disclosure Statement and a corresponding Form PTO-1449 were filed on June 17, 2005. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to return an initialed copy of the Form PTO-1449, indicating that the reference cited thereon was considered.

Claims 32-40 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,288,800 (Izumi).

Claim 32 is directed to a color facsimile apparatus that includes reading means, generating means, extracting means, embedding means, compressing means, storing means, and transmitting means. The reading means reads an image, the generating means generates image data representing the image, and the extracting means extracts data from the image data in minimum processing units for JPEG compression processing. The embedding means embeds transmission information for a header or footer in a unit of extracted data extracted by the extracting means when the unit of the extracted data is a unit in which the transmission information should be embedded. The compressing means executes JPEG compression processing for each unit of the extracted data including the

unit of the extracted data in which the transmission information is embedded after embedding the transmission information by the embedding means. The storing means stores compressed data by the compressing means in a memory, and the transmitting means transmits a JPEG image data based on the compressed data stored in the memory.

Notably, Claim 32 (1) embeds transmission information for a header or footer in a unit of extracted data, which has been extracted from image data, when the unit is a unit in which the transmission information should be embedded, (2) executes JPEG compression processing for each unit of the extracted data including the unit of the extracted data in which the transmission information is embedded after embedding the transmission information, and (3) transmits the JPEG image data based on the compressed data stored in a memory.

In this way, the apparatus of Claim 32 embeds transmission information in original image data before compressing the original image data. After embedding the transmission information, JPEG compression processing is executed for the original image data in which the transmission information is embedded, and JPEG image data is transmitted. By virtue of the features of Claim 32, JPEG image data in which transmission information is embedded can be printed at the receiving end, as can JPEG image data in which transmission information is not embedded.

Izumi relates to an image communication system capable of visually outputting image data of an image input apparatus, and transmitting image data to a communication line. Izumi discusses adding a header in accordance with a predetermined protocol to compressed image data stored in a memory, assembling the data into an ISDN

frame, and transmitting the data. However, the header is added after compressing the original image data. Therefore, the header is not embedded in original image data and then compressed, and instead is only attached to the compressed data.^{1/}

Nothing in Izumi would teach or suggest (1) embedding transmission information for a header or footer in a unit of extracted data, which has been extracted from image data, when the unit is a unit of the extracted data in which the transmission information should be embedded, and (2) executing JPEG compression processing for each unit of the extracted data including the unit of the extracted data in which the transmission information is embedded after embedding the transmission information, as recited in Claim 32.

Accordingly, Claim 32 is believed to be patentable over Izumi.

Independent Claims 36-39 recite features similar in many relevant respects to those discussed above with respect to Claim 32 and therefore are also believed to be patentable over Izumi for at least the reasons discussed above.

The other claims in this application are each dependent from one or another of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

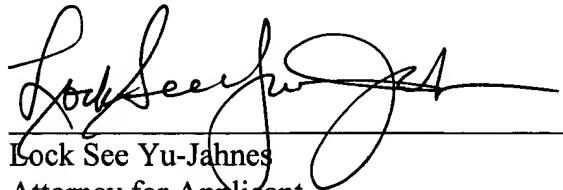
^{1/}Although Izumi does not so state, it follows that in printing an image having a header at a receiving end, Izumi needs to disassemble the ISDN frame.

This Amendment After Final Action is believed clearly to place this application in condition for allowance and, therefore, its entry is believed proper under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116. Accordingly, entry of this Amendment After Final Action, as an earnest effort to advance prosecution and reduce the number of issues, is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner believe that issues remain outstanding, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact Applicant's undersigned attorney in an effort to resolve such issues and advance the case to issue.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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